REMARKS

Claims 1 and 5-15 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent 6,776,195 to Blasko et al in view of U.S. Patent 6,881,460 to Inaba et al.

Applicants respond as follows.

The laminated resin molding of the invention comprises a thermoplastic polymer layer (A), a polyamide-based resin layer (B) and a thermoplastic resin layer (C). Furthermore, the laminated resin molding is obtained by a method comprising laminating by the simultaneous multi-layer coextrusion technique using a coextruding machine comprising a die and a plurality of extruders each for feeding a resin to the die.

As previously discussed, Blasko et al does not disclose either of a multi-layered tube obtained by simultaneous multi-layered coextrusion of three or more layers or a multi-layered tube having good flexibility. In the "Response to Arguments," the Examiner considered that the tubular polymeric composite of Blasko et al is the same as or similar to the claimed laminated resin molding made by a different process, absent evidence to the contrary. Inaba et al was cited with respect to the claimed amine value.

Applicants now show that the claimed laminated resin molding made by the simultaneous multi-layer coextrusion technique is different from the tubular polymeric composite of Blasko et al made by a different process, and that such difference is an unobvious difference.

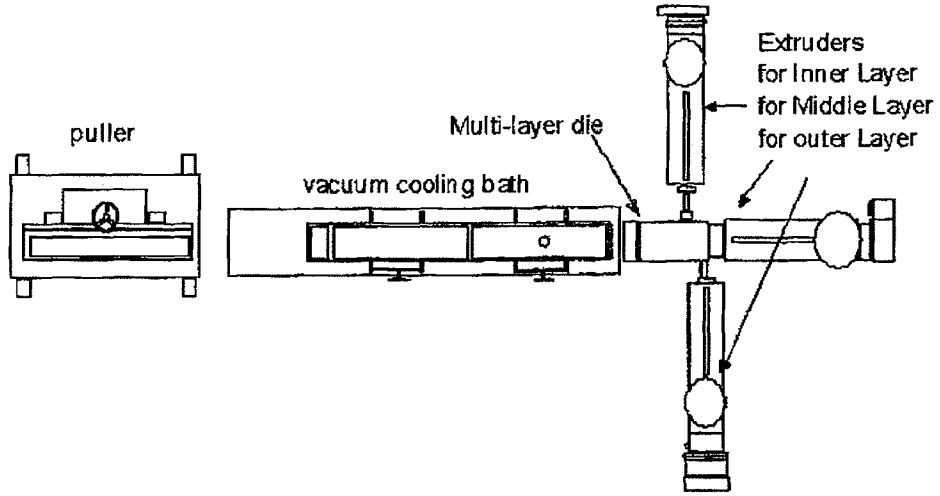
Initially, Applicants note that Blasko et al must select sequential extrusion for obtaining their composites. The composites of Blasko et al cannot be obtained by simultaneous multi-layered coextrusion.

Regarding this last point, Blasko discloses the production method noted below.

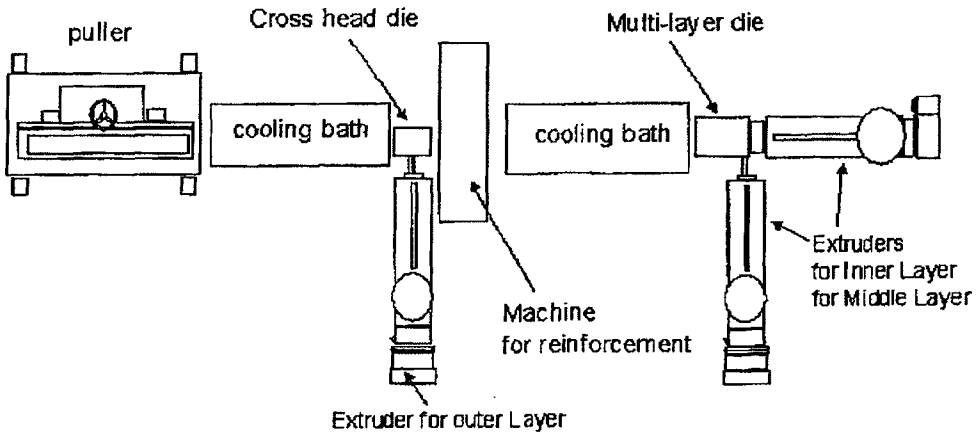
> With the layers 16 and 18 being co-extruded or otherwise formed, a thermal "fusion" bond may be formed therebetween (col. 5, lines 55-58).
>
> One or more reinforcement layers, 130a-b, may be provided as wound on directly or otherwise to surround the outer surface 12 of the member 10. Each of the reinforcement layers 130 may be conventionally formed as braided, knitted, wrapped or helically wound of monofilament (col. 8, lines 1-16).
>
> Depending upon its construction, cover 140 (i.e., 142 and 144) may be spray-applied, dip coated, cross-heal or coextruded, wrapped or braided over the reinforcement layer 130b (col. 8, lines 57-61).

The moldings obtained by sequential extrusion are substantially different from the claimed moldings obtained by simultaneous multi-layer coextrusion. Specifically, in sequential extrusion, because the outer layer (i.e., cover 140) is extruded on a non-melted and cooled layer (i.e., 130a-b), the bonding strength is insufficient. The simultaneous multi-layer coextrusion technique of the invention is contrasted to the sequential extrusion of Blasko et al in the diagrams shown below.

(1) INVENTION (simultaneous multilayer coextrusion)



(2) BLASKO (sequential extrusion)



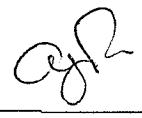
For the above reason, it is respectfully submitted that the present claims are patentable over Blasko et al in view of Inaba et al, and withdrawal of the foregoing rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) is respectfully requested.

Withdrawal of all rejections and allowance of claims 1 and 5-15 is earnestly solicited.

In the event that the Examiner believes that it may be helpful to advance the prosecution of this application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the local Washington, D.C. telephone number indicated below.

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,



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Date: April 20, 2009